



AF

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application: Johnny M. Hickman Group Art Unit: 1734
Serial No.: 10/698,337 Examiner: Sells, James D.
Filing Date: October 31, 2003 Docket No.: 18794-00062
Title: WELDING TIP

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

OK to Enter
JS 3/14/06

RESPONSE TO FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Dear Sir:

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Office Action dated December 16, 2005, setting a shortened statutory period for response of 3 months (response due March 16, 2006). As this Response is being filed under a Certificate of Mailing dated March 3, 2006, Applicants believe no additional fees appear due. However, if any additional fees are required regarding the filing of this Response, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 13-0265.

Please reconsider the standing rejections for claims 1-20 in light of the following comments.